Environmental projects in Utter Pradesh

*699. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the projects taken up in Uttar Pradesh for the conservation of environment and forests with Central and foreign assistance during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the progress made in this regard, so far;

(c) the amount of financial asistance provided in each case; and

(d) the details of projects proposed to be taken up in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The details of the projects taken up in Uttar Pradesh for the conservation of environment and forests with Central and foreign assistance during the last three years alongwith achievements both Financial and Physical are given in the annexure placed on the Table of the House. *{See* Appendix 173, annexure no. 151)

(d) The projects are continuing in future.

Harassment to vendors and kiosk operators in SC Railways

*700. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether vendors and licensed kiosk operators in South Central Railway feel insecure due to frequent change of policies;

(b) whether it is a fact that frequently new vendors are given licences, when other licence holders are already there;

(c) what steps are proposed by the South Central Railway not to tamper and harass existing vendors; and

(d) the steps proposed by the South Central Railway to avoid tampering, in mid-term, of licence period of various vendors at different railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Discontinuance of Examination for Radio Electronic Officers

7020. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Telecommunications had announced, vide its Notification published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 3rd February, 1995 that COP. Part-I examinations for Radio Electronic Officers will to be conducted after the present Session of March-April, 1995, due to probable introduction of Global Maritime Distress Safety System (G.M.D.S.S.);

(b) whether Government have received representations from various Marine Radio Officers training institutes opposing this sudden discontinuance of C.O.P. Exams; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction to these representations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A circular was issued in 1993 itself to institute training candidates for COP Examinations, informing of the need for introduction of GMDSS Certificates and Government's intention to implement the same.

Shortage of Capacity/Machinery in Telephone Office in Darjeeling

7021. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the shortage of capacity/certain machineries has created difficulties for the S.D.O. Telephones, Darjeeling, even to allot connections to persons who have been permitted out of M.P.'s quota;

(b) if so, whether the S.D.O. Telephone, Darjeeling has asked the concerned authorities for meeting up the requirements; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, upto January, 1995 there was shortage of exchange capacity, but with the expansion of C-DOT 400 lines exchange to 1000 lines, all out of turn telephone connections have been provided except one, which is a very long distance case. Rent and guarantee formalities in this case have not yet been completed by the party.

(c) Yes, Sir.

New Scheme for Radio Officers Examination

7022. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wireless Planning and Co-ordination (W.P.C.) Wing of the Ministry of Communications has prepared the new scheme for the Radio Officers exams and has changed/ revised the present syallabus and eligibility criteria due to introduction of Global Maritime Distress Safety System (G.M.D.S.S.);

(b) if so, what are the details of the new scheme and the eligibility criteria and the list of equipments for practical exams for Radio Officer; and

(c) by when this new scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) The following categories of certificates and licences to operate ship stations in GMDSS are prescribed:-

(a) First Class Radio Electronic Certificate and Licence.

(b) Second Class Radio Electronic Certificate and Licence.

(c) General Operator's Certificate and Licence.

(d) Restricted Operator's Certificate and Licence.

(ii) The eligibility criteria for admission to the examinations are as follows :

The person shall be

- a citizen of India,

- above the age of eighteen years on the date specified from time to time by the government; and

- has passed all India senior secondary school certificate examination or an equivalent examination conducted by a recognised board/ University with Mathematics and Physics as optional subjects.

(iii) The list of proposed equipments for practical examinations is as follows:-

- VHF/HF/MF Synthesised Transceiver.
- HF Telex.
- Satcom Standard 'A' Terminal.
- Satcom Standard 'C Terminal.
- Digital Selective Calling (DSC) (MF DSC-2187.5 KHz, HF DSC) Distress Frequency, VHF DSC Channel 70.
-NAVTEX
- EPIRB
- EGC RECEIVER
- RADAR TRANSPONDER

(c) The scheme is likely to be implemented during 1996-97.

Delivery Post Offices in Assam

7023. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of new delivery post offices opened in Assam, district-wise, during the last three years, alongwith respective dates of their opening;

(b) how many delivery post offices are there in Dibrugarh, Tinsukia and Guwahati at present, with details of areas/localities served, post office-wise;

(c) how many Speed Post centres are there in Assam, alongwith respective dates of opening;

(d) whether Government have decided to shift headquarters of Postmaster General, Assam region from Guwahati to Dibrugarh; if so, progress made in this respect, so far; and